



# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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TOWN PLANNER'S OFFICE

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## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 8, 2012**

**PRESENT:** Vice and Acting Chairman Chris Todd, Regular Members David Hurley and Stanislav Moline and Alternates Gilbert Gamboa and Stefanie Cunningham  
**ABSENT:** Chairman Sean Kelly and Alternate Joseph Dorreman  
**STAFF** Lisa M. Houlihan, Assistant Town Planner/Wetlands Agent/Zoning Official; and  
**PRESENT:** Kristin Michaud, Recording Secretary

### **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Acting Chairman Todd called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

### **II. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE**

### **III. NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

### **IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**MOVED (GAMBOA), SECONDED (HURLEY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADD TO THE AGENDA DISCUSSION REGARDING THE TAX ABATEMENT POLICY.**

The Commission reviewed a draft outline from Chairman Sean Kelly and discussed possible changes to the tax abatement policy. Vice Chairman Todd also created a draft suggestion for the Purpose section of the abatement and the Commission discussed that as well.

Ms. Houlihan noted concerns from the Town Planner.

Commissioner Hurley suggested adding a caveat explaining that the abatement would be at the discretion of the EDC and the BOS.

In discussing Targeted Industries, Commissioner Todd suggested adding Sec. 12-65b (b) and eliminating some of the provisions.

Ms. Houlihan reviewed the statutes noting the rehabilitation sections for the commission's review. The Commission reviewed the statutes and discussed different options.

Ms. Houlihan suggested having other departments play a more key role in the tax abatement process such as the Assessor. She suggested that the Commission review the statutes and to come back next month with suggestions and hopefully move closer to a final draft by the next meeting.

#### **1. Report: Agricultural Initiatives**

Ms. Houlihan reported that progress is not expected on a program for exemptions on farm buildings until after the new Assessor starts, noting that she starts on August 27th.

**NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS**

2. Report: Business Surveys and Site Visits

Business visits will pick-up again in September. She will be making calls and scheduling appointments at the end of the month.

**NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS**

3. Report: Business Directory

Just prior to school being back in session, Ms. Houlihan will contact the High School to inform them about the internship and ask what process needs to be followed to solicit qualified candidates.

**NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS**

4. Report: Tax Incentive Programs

Discussion ensued under item #1.

**NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS**

5. Report: Current Economic Activity

Ms. Houlihan stated that a PZC application is pending for two self storage buildings at the Corner of Maple Street and Berr Ave., and that the YMCA is talking about building their approved second phase. It was noted that Little House in the Country has opened another location on Main Street.

**NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS**

**V. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

1. Approval of the June 13, 2012, regular meeting minutes.

**MOVED (HURLEY), SECONDED (GAMBOA) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE JUNE 13, 2012, MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN.**

2. Metro Hartford Alliance Invoice #9532138, Annual Economic Development Investor Dues covering 7/1/2012 through 6/30/2013.

**MOVED (HURLEY), SECONDED (MOLINE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO METRO HARTFORD ALLIANCE FOR THE ANNUAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INVESTOR DUES PURSUANT TO INVOICE 9532138.**

Commissioner Gamboa discussed the danger of the new roundabout at five corners. His wife's co-worker was in a car accident in that area. He noted the roundabout is making so much more traffic, how dangerous speeds have become and the many accidents there. He noted that from Skinner Road to Pinney Street is a straight shot from that point in the roundabout.

Discussion ensued.

3. Correspondence:

- a. Northeastern Economic Developers Association – NEDA's 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference.
- b. Letter to Lisa Houlihan, Assistant Town Planner, from Christopher Davis, State Representative, dated June 22, 2012, concerning 2012 Acts Affecting Business and Jobs.
- c. 2012 New England Economic Development Course, September 10-13, 2012.

**SO NOTED**

**IV. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOVED (HURLEY), SECONDED (GAMBOA) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO  
ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:11 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kristin C. Michaud".

Kristin C. Michaud  
Recording Secretary